

SENATE BILL 3183

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 15,  
Chapter 2, Part 1, relative to designating "Rescue  
Squad Week".

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads is a non-profit organization  
dedicated to the good of mankind; and

WHEREAS, the approximately 5,000 members of the 115 squads of the Tennessee  
Association of Rescue Squads give tirelessly of their time and energy in humanitarian efforts  
and make themselves available every hour of the day, every day of the year; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads designs and executes all of  
its activities in furtherance of the following goals:

1. The promotion of a better understanding between the various rescue squads  
and the public of Tennessee;
2. Increased efficiency through education and personal contact and through  
publications dealing with subjects of interest to all squads in Tennessee;
3. The establishment of life saving and first aid work in Tennessee on a basis  
comparable with that of other organizations whose work is statewide in character;
4. To foster a program of accident prevention throughout Tennessee;
5. To give rescue squads exact information pertaining to equipment and  
manpower, which would be available to any unit in the event of a catastrophe beyond  
the power of a single unit to satisfactory handle;
6. To cooperate in, foster, and conduct research designed to advance the  
science and art of rescue and first aid work, and to encourage the standardization of  
practice and equipment, when such standardization is found practicable;

7. To develop and maintain a code of high ethical standards among rescue and first aid personnel;

8. To bring together in a common association all organizations and individuals in Tennessee interested in the aforementioned objectives; and

9. To establish a rescue college to foster and teach advanced rescue techniques across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, rescue squad personnel provide an invaluable service through their assistance to their communities during times of need and crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads and its members dutifully personify the example established by the parable of the Good Samaritan; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable members of the public who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; now, therefore:

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 15-2-121, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and adding the following language as subsection (b):

The first full week in March of each year shall also be observed as "Rescue Squad Week," to be proclaimed as such by the governor, to honor and recognize rescue squad personnel in this state for their tireless and invaluable service. Such week shall not be a legal holiday as defined in § 15-1-101.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.